

Protect Yourself and Your Community!

TIPS FOR FRAUD AND SCAM PREVENTION

1. Do Not Respond to Unknown Contacts

- Ignore anyone contacting you that you don't know - let it go to voicemail.
- Do not click on links in emails or text messages.
- Do not call phone numbers that are sent to you or left in your voicemail.

2. Do Your Research

- Always verify information and credentials.
- Look for red flags like "pay with gift cards" or crypto assets.
- Use information found only on official sources.

3. Take Your Time

- Scammers will urge you to act fast, bypassing your better judgement and ability to notice red flags. Ignore anyone who is threatening you, giving you a limited-time offer, or telling you not to share their information with others.

4. Do Not Share Your Personal or Financial Information

- Limit what you share on social media, websites, signup forms, phone apps, shopping sites, account profiles, etc.

5. Talk with Someone You Trust

- A different perspective can often help you recognize red flags.
- Consider using a challenge and passphrase with family and friends.

6. Stay Vigilant

- Regularly check your financial accounts and credit reports.
- Delete unused online accounts and have your data removed.
- Use a shredder to dispose of mail and personal documents.
- Deposit important mail directly to the post office.



Contact the DFPI to:

- Submit a complaint regarding one of our licensees.
- Report financial elder abuse.
- Report violations of California financial laws or abusive business practices.
- Verify the license, legitimacy, and status of a financial business or professionals.